

### Schools in the Shadows

Gul Khanum is 11 years old. She lives with her parents on their small farm in Mollai, a little village in Afghanistan. Every day this eleven-year-old risks her life to realize her dream of one day becoming a doctor: She goes to school!

Gul attends a small elementary school built last summer by the U.S. Army—the first school ever in her village. The village of Mollai has nothing—no paved roads, electrical power, water wells, clinics—but this school is the village's highest priority. Gul and her friends are the first girls in their families to attend; her parents and most of the parents of Mollai's 300 students cannot read.

There are those in Afghanistan who do not want Gul and her friends going to school. They seek to control Afghanistan and its economy by keeping the people poor, illiterate and dependent. In the 1990s the ruling Taliban eliminated education for girls entirely, maintaining schools for boys in Islamic studies only.

Since the Taliban was overthrown in 2001, the struggling new democracy has done an exceptional job in establishing schools for all the nation's children. But over the past six months, Taliban insurgents have launched a campaign to destroy Afghanistan's gains in education. Schools have been bombed and burned; teachers have been killed and students have been threatened. Nearly half of Afghanistan's public schools have closed. By attacking schools, the Taliban is attempting to weaken ordinary Afghans' confidence in their fledgling government.

But Gul's community and villages like hers refuse to buckle under. They have opened schools in private homes, away from public view. An Afghan math teacher, whose own school was bombed, said they are determined to pay whatever price to educate their sons and daughters. "If our people do not get educated, it will be a disaster for our country. We see how far ahead other countries are getting, and we are just falling farther behind."

One day, eleven-year-old Gul will be a doctor because of her own determination and that of her family and village.

(From "Afghan Girls, Back in the Shadows" by Pamela Constable, *The Washington Post*, September 23, 2006.)

*The determination of Gul and her fellow students and their families and teachers to preserve education for all children is nothing less than "prophetic." Acting "prophetically" begins with embracing what is right and just and then being willing to confront whatever evil seeks to destroy that good. All of us are called to be prophets, whether we are elementary school students like Gul or physicians or widows or the sons and daughters of carpenters. May we possess the wisdom to listen to God speaking to us in the example and the grace of the prophets in our midst who proclaim God's Word to all of us by the integrity of their lives; in turn, may we assume our call to be "prophets," as well, revealing the love of God in our love of others, proclaiming the justice and peace of God in the humility and selflessness in which we seek to live our lives, celebrating God's forgiveness in our own struggle to forgive and be reconciled with others.*

### Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

The community of St. Columban extends its sympathy to the family of:

Barbara Ruth Moreland, mother of Sara Jane Pontius, May her soul and the souls of the departed rest in peace.

### DO YOU NEED A FAITH LIFT?

Come to our Parish Retreat!  
February 5th, 6th and 7th from 7-8:30pm

### WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

St. Columban welcomes the following families to our parish community:

*Rich & Jenni Lane, Noah and Addi  
Mary Kornmann  
Kevin & Jocelyn Richmond and Olivia  
John & Colette Pender, Jessica and Luke*

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST CATHOLICS

We are pleased to announce the Sacrament of Baptism received by the following children:

*Isabella Marie Hook,  
daughter of Jeremy & Megan Hook  
Max Lang Hollander, son of Eric & Alison Hollander  
Lucas Allen Kaltenbach,  
son of Jarrod and Paula Kaltenbach  
Evan Thomas Faessler,  
son of Joseph and Amy Faessler  
Carly Nicole Gatto, daughter of John & Kimberly Gatto  
Tamara Munoz, daughter of Walter & Maribel Munoz*

### ATTENTION: Primetimers — Annual Italian Dinner

This is the last reminder to make reservations for the Italian Dinner and good time planned for **February 3rd at 5:30pm** in the Cafeteria. Paul Derham has taken on his job of producer with gusto. He has engaged not only singers, but dancers in his "Cavalcade of Stars". So as not to miss the fun, please send \$9 check NOW to Pat Binzer (200 Heidleberg Dr., Loveland). At the next Primetimers meeting on February 13th at 7:30pm, we'll be playing cards.

### OUTREACH Opportunities!

**Dinner on Us Chairperson Needed** We'd like to offer a heartfelt thank you to Lynn Oury for her many years of service as chair of this ministry. Lynn is willing to help train and assist a new chair in this position. This program has an extensive list of volunteers but needs the coordinator to take phone calls and call volunteers to make and deliver dinners. The purpose is to provide meals to families in need when someone is hospitalized, has an illness or had a new baby, etc. If you have a calling to volunteer please consider this position! For more information, contact Lynn Oury at 677-1745.

**L.I.F.E. Food Pantry** We need a "scheduler" for the St. Columban volunteers for the L.I.F.E. Food Pantry. This position entails scheduling 5-7 open slots each quarter with volunteers from a list of willing participants. The Food Pantry is located at Prince of Peace Church in Loveland. Call Lynn Cassidy at 774-0874 for information on the scheduler position. If you want to be a volunteer willing to work at the Food Pantry periodically, call Sue Freeman at 697-9112.

**HELP after Feb. 3rd & 4th Masses** Assistance is needed after all masses the weekend of Feb. 3rd & 4th to collect for the Souper Bowl of Caring Program. Contact Dee Angel at 899-3373 if you can help.

# HAPPENINGS

DURING ORDINARY TIME AT ST. COLUMBAN PARISH

CHU=Church  
CONV=Convent  
ERC=Eucharistic Reservation Chapel  
FAC=School Faculty Room  
FR=Church Family Room  
GS=Gathering Space  
LMR=Large Meeting Room  
POLR=Parish office Living Room  
REC=Rectory  
UND=Church Undercroft  
CAF=Cafeteria  
DC=Day Chapel  
LIB=Library  
N=Nursery  
SH=Scout Hall  
YR=Youth Room

Weekday	January	Schedule/Information	
<b>Sunday</b> JER1:4-5,17-19 1COR 12:31-13:13 LK 4:21-30	<b>28</b>	8:00 a.m. Mass—Fr. Joe Bracken 9:45 a.m. Mass—Fr. Larry Tensi ( <i>Memorial Intentions</i> ); Preschool; RCIA 11:30 a.m. Mass—Fr. Larry Tensi; First Communion Candidacy 12:30 p.m. New Parishioner Registration (FR)	<b>CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK</b>
<b>Monday</b> HEB 11:32-40 MK 5: 1-20	<b>29</b>	8:30 a.m. Moms in Touch (ERC) 12:30 p.m. Mass-Fr. Larry Tensi (DC) ( <i>Richard Tensi</i> ) 3:15 p.m. Drama Club (UND) 7:00 p.m. Scripture Study (POLR); Festival Planning Meeting (REC) 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Meeting (CHU) 7:30 p.m. WCRHP 41 (DC)	
<b>Tuesday</b> HEB 12:1-4 MK 5: 21-43	<b>30</b>	7:00 a.m. Mass-Fr. Larry Tensi (DC) ( <i>James Greenwood</i> ) 3:00 p.m. School Handbells (CHU); Drama Club (UND); Lego Roamers (LIB) 7:00 p.m. Development Advisory (POLR)	
<b>Wednesday</b> HEB 12: 4-7,11-15 MK 6: 1-6	<b>31</b>	1:00 p.m. Scripture Study (POLR) 3:00 p.m. School Liturgy Choir (CHU); Drama Club (UND); Cadettes #5118; (CAF) 7:00 p.m. Mass—Fr. Larry Tensi ( <i>Joanna Swartz</i> ); ERE Bible Study (FAC); ERE (SCH) 7:45 p.m. Boy Scouts (CAF)	
<b>Thursday</b> HEB 12: 18-19, 21-24 MK 6: 7-13	<b>February 1</b>	8:45 a.m. Mass—Fr. Larry Tensi ( <i>Bertha Occulto</i> ) 12:00 p.m. Science Fair Set-Up (UND) 3:15 p.m. Brownie Mtg #9394 (CAF) 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training; Deacon Meeting (FR); MCRHP #41 (DC) 7:30 p.m. Choir (CHU)	
<b>Friday</b> MAL 3: 1-4 HEB 2: 14-18 LK 2: 22-40	<b>2</b>	8:00 a.m. Science Fair Judging Set-Up (UND) 10:00 a.m. PTO Open Board (CAF); Scripture Study (FR) 3:15 p.m. Brownies #5868 (CAF) 6:30 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal ( <i>Comella/Kelley</i> ) (CHU) 6:30-9:30 p.m. Babysitting by Girl Scouts (UND)	
<b>Saturday</b> HEB 13:15-17, 20-21 MK 6:30-34	<b>3</b>	7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Science Fair (UND) 8:00 a.m. Word & Communion (DC) 3:00-4:00 p.m. Reconciliation (CHU) 4:30 p.m. Mass—Fr. Larry Tensi ( <i>Parishioners Intentions</i> ); Baptism 5:30 p.m. PTO Bake Sale (UND); Primitimers Italian Dinner (CAF); New Parishioner Registration (FR); Souper Bowl Collection 6:30 p.m. Wedding ( <i>Comella/Kelley</i> )	
<b>Sunday</b> IS 6:1-2a,3-8 1COR 15:1-11 LK 5:1-11	<b>4</b>	8:00 a.m. Mass—Fr. Del Staigers 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Bake Sale (UND); Coffee & Donuts (UND); Souper Bowl Collection 9:45 a.m. Mass—Fr. Jeff Kemper; Liturgy of the Word for Children (DC); Preschool (SCH); RCIA 11:30 a.m. Mass—Fr. Jeff Kemper ( <i>Memorial Intentions</i> ) 1:00 p.m. Baptism Instruction (FAC)	

**St. Columban Annual Appeal**

Thank you for your generous contributions to the 2006 Annual Appeal. We have over \$69,000 in pledges, the best year ever! Thank you so much!

- ⇒ Making monthly or quarterly payments? Don't forget to send them in.
  - ⇒ Haven't pledged or contributed yet? It's not too late.
  - ⇒ Lost your pledge card? Just include a note with your check and it will get routed properly.
- Again, thank you to all who have given so generously.

**Souper Bowl of Caring**

We will hold our eighth annual "Souper Bowl" here at St. Columban next weekend after all masses. An annual event on Super Bowl weekend, we join with churches in all 50 states, of various religious denominations, in giving a few dollars on our way out of church. Look for the "Soup" kettles on your way out of mass next weekend. Our donations stay in Cincinnati, benefiting Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati. Interfaith is a unique response to homelessness, it combines volunteers from forty plus churches in the area with professionals to reintegrate homeless families into the community. Please be generous in your response.

**KEEPING DONUT SUNDAY (W)HOLE**

This is just a reminder that Coffee & Donuts are provided in the Undercroft after the 8:00 and 9:45 Masses, typically on the first Sunday of the month ("Donut Sunday"). These informal social gatherings are just one of the many ways that St. Columban promotes a spirit of fellowship and camaraderie amongst parishioners. As such, Donut Sunday refreshments are free, but donations are always welcome and accepted. The average cost of Donut Sunday is about \$250 and the donations fund this cost, with a goal of breaking even so as not require additional funding from the parish. Your continued support of Donut Sunday is greatly appreciated. The next one is scheduled for February 4th.

**Moeller High School—Monte Carlo/Reverse Raffle**

Saturday, February 3rd at 7 p.m.

\$25/Raffle Ticket Includes Two Admissions

For more information, call Cathy Egan at 494-2091

**St. Columban Boys' Volleyball**

Wanted! We are in need of skilled volleyball coaches for our very successful Boys program. We are looking for non-parent coaches for the 6th and 7th grade competitive teams for the upcoming season. I promise it will be a rewarding experience helping to teach these young men the sport. Please give back to the sport that gave to you! Contact Keith Wells at 513-616-7278 or kwells@intelligrated.com.

**Boys' Volleyball Registration**

Boys' volleyball registration for 4th thru 8th grades, is being held from Jan. 15th-28th. Registration can be completed on-line at [www.stcolumbanboosters.org](http://www.stcolumbanboosters.org). Questions? Contact Keith Wells at 616-7278 or kwells@intelligrated.com.

**Come One, Come All!****It's St. Columban Parish Festival Planning Time**

**Monday, January 29th at 7:00 P.M.**

**Parish Residence Meeting Room**

Step right up folks! St. Columban's Festival is scheduled for June 22-24 and now is the time to plan! Gather with your family and friends, volunteer together and have fun! Bring your ideas, talent and time. We welcome everyone to join in this major event planning. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact the Parish Office at 683-0105 or [frontdesk@stcolumban.org](mailto:frontdesk@stcolumban.org).

Can't make the meeting?

Look for updates on the web! [www.stcolumban.org](http://www.stcolumban.org)

**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY MASS**

The 2007 Golden Wedding Jubilee Anniversary Mass for couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary will be held on Saturday, May 5th at 2pm at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral.



**PTO Valentine Bake Sale**  
**February 3rd and 4th after all Masses**  
**in the Undercroft**

Buy your sweetie a sweet treat  
 and support our school at the same  
 time!

**Parent's Night Out Babysitting!**

**Friday, February 2nd 6:30-9:30pm in the Cafeteria**

Girl Scout Troop 6857 is once again offering babysitting for children ages 3 and up. Donations for this service are appreciated. This is a fundraiser for the girls trip to Washington D.C. in June for the 95th anniversary of Girl Scouts. All of the girls are Red Cross Babysitting certified and will be supervised by adults. We will have crafts, games, and snacks for the children. Please call Amy Buck at 583-1538 if you would like to sign up for your child(ren) to attend.

**CATHOLIC TELEGRAPH SUBSCRIPTION**

Archbishop Pilarczyk has decreed that all parish households receive the *Telegraph* as an instrument of faith formation in the Archdiocese. The subscription cost of \$16.00 per household is paid for by the parish operating budget. If you do not wish to receive the *Catholic Telegraph*, please complete the form below and return it to the parish office or place it in the collection basket.

**PLEASE DISCONTINUE MY SUBSCRIPTION TO**  
**THE CATHOLIC TELEGRAPH**

Please Print

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

THE RIDE HOME

Have you ever felt like giving up? The Lord chose Jeremiah and yet no one would listen to him.

He wanted to give up but he didn't.

Talk about this on the way home or at bedtime.

January 28, 2007

The fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time: Hear

**Gospel:** Luke 4:21-30

**Adult:** Where do you hear God's voice most clearly in your daily life?

**Child:** How can you remember to be like Jeremiah and Jesus?

**Activity:** Finish a job or chore that you have given up on . Maybe it is a model that became to hard or a puzzle that seemed impossible. Who doesn't have a craft project that they have abandoned?

St. Columban Parish

Membership Needs Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_



**CHECK ONE:**

- New Registration
- Change of Address
- Moving out of Parish
- Special Needs please call

*Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to the Parish Office. We will have someone contact you to schedule a visit for registration or for special needs.*

Parish Pastoral Council Members

James Bauer.....336-9939  
 Laura Bunker.....583-8823  
 Chad Drinnen.....683-8894  
 Chuck Gibson.....774-9238

Lisa Hilliker..... 677-2652  
 Jake Potticary.....677-9494  
 Sherri Marshall..... 934-5504  
 Rick Morman..... 697-9056

Linda Pfeffer.....683-7185  
 Ralph Quisno.....677-0840  
 John Robinson.....683-1472  
 Chris Schell.....677-8023